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The Panther

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Powell, Johnson win SGA elections



By Ronald Smith, The Panther

Ready for whatever: Trent Johnson (left) and Robert Powell (right) are ready for the upcoming school year.

By Ebony Sowells
Panther Staff

Robert Powell, a junior civil engineering major, was elected the 2009-2010 president of the Student Government Association yesterday.

Powell obtained 499 votes while his opponent Kenneth Grimes received 450 votes.

Trent Johnson, a sophomore computer science major with a minor in mathematics, was elected vice president. He gathered 563 votes, outnumbering his opponent, LaToya Wolfe who received 346.

Powell was grateful for his success. "I'm humbled about it and ready to get to work now; it's important that I really get on the ball so we can hit the ground running," he said.

Although this will be the first time Powell holds this high position, he is not a stranger to the executive side of student government. He has been sophomore class president as well as director of special events. He said, "My winning for Prairie View is a win for the students. They can be assured that I will put together the best possible team to make sure SGA is being advocates for the students."

Through all the success, Powell said the most important thing was serving the student body, not defeating his opponent. "I feel like the students were a little more educated about the voting process and the election could have gone either way. Me and my opponent are going to work together for the students," Powell said.

Johnson said he was humbled by

his victory. "The word that comes to mind is privileged," he said. Johnson said he was ready to get down to business. "When the results came out I was happy but now I have to get to work. I've said all the things I would do and now I feel like I need to do what I said I would do."

One issue that was raised in this and previous elections is the consistency of the candidate's claims. Every candidate says what he or she will do but without any one to hold him or her accountable they often go against. Johnson said, "One thing I want to let students know is that I'm an approachable person. If there is anything that I'm doing that's not serving the student body sufficiently just let me know. Whether it be by e-mail by Facebook just come to me and let me know and we can figure out what we can do to better solve

the problem."

Johnson said the race was difficult due to his opponent's status at the university. "It was a serious challenge. My opponent was very involved and well known around campus and a very sweet person. People have entrusted their faith in me and elected me to this position so now I have to be committed."

One of the steps that Johnson plans to take to ensure that he fulfills his promises is collaborate with his opponent. "Of course I thought that I would win but I accepted the fact that I might lose. In any instance I would want to collaborate with my opponent because of her experience and knowledge of SGA. There are some things that she's strong in that I'm weak in and if we are both here for the students there is no reason why we can't come together," said Johnson.



By Ronald Smith, The Panther

Everyone waits: Students are glued to the board to see the election results.

For Panthers At Work, community is what matters

Whitney Harris
News Editor

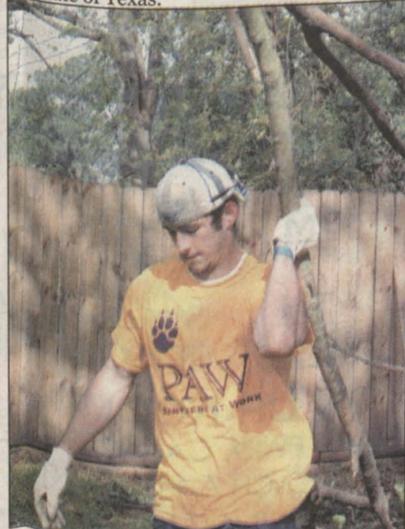
The City of Prairie View and the Office of Student Affairs and Institutional Relations hosted Panthers At Work Saturday, April 4 in recognition of National Volunteer Month.

More than 250 students volunteered in the Prairie View community by planting trees, cleaning up streets, and painting around University Drive.



"PAW is important because it allows us to meet other students and work together on a common goal. There should be way more participation in activities such as PAW to help with the upkeep of our home away from home," said junior civil engineer major Robert Powell.

Prairie View A&M University held its annual PAW community service event for the first time during the spring semester to join the "Don't Mess with Texas Trash Off" campaign, which is the single largest one day clean-up in the state of Texas.



All photos courtesy of the Office of Institutional Relations

"It's always a success when you allow students to see how working with the community impacts their lives. Prairie View is really a city made up of students, so through PAW the students were able to work with and meet members of the community," said Sheleah Hughes, director of public relations.

One project students participated in was "Fences," where students learned about the history of some of the families from Prairie View. They planted trees, cleaned up the area, and put down markers to identify the families.

"I had the opportunity to plant trees," said Powell. "Every time I come back I will remember it and put a little water on it. I even kept the gloves and dated them."

Last semester marked PVAMU's fifth year helping in the community through PAW.

"Students work hard and deserve recognition, even those who do service without expecting to be recognized. Students, faculty, and staff do a lot of service and we want to just thank you," said Dr. Laurretta Byars, vice president for student affairs and institutional relations.

Byars' office is also planning a recognition ceremony to celebrate those faculty and staff members who are service pioneers in the Prairie View community, their community, and the university. The program is scheduled for April 15 in the A.I. Thomas Building auditorium from 3-4 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

"We just want to recognize service and volunteers," said Byars.

Sigma Tau Theta hosts third media conference for communications students



By Ronald Smith, The Panther

Endless networking possibilities: Students with media interest were able to network with professionals such as music video producer Dr. Teeth and magazine editor General Berry.

By Domonique Brooks
Panther Intern

Students gathered in the Memorial Student Center Ballroom on April 6 for the third annual media conference hosted by Sigma Tau Theta.

This year's theme was HOPE, Honoring Ordinary People Doing the Extraordinary.

The conference panel in-

cluded: Sheleah Hughes, director of public relations at PVAMU, General Berry of *Our Texas* magazine, Andrea Harrell, fashion editor for *Jones Magazine*, and John "Dr. Teeth" Tucker, CEO of Directors Cut Entertainment.

Each of the guests on the panel introduced themselves and gave insight into their careers and told how they achieved their success.

"I've not reached my highest point. I'm not there yet but I'm constantly working to become better," said Hughes.

Those in attendance were told to set attainable goals and work hard to achieve them. "I try to align myself with like-minded people, people who understand me, my vision and who will not hinder my progress," said Harrell.

Students were encouraged to ask the panel anything they wanted to know about successfully breaking into the field of communications. Questions ranged from what a typical day in their lives were like to what qualities they look for in interns and employees.

Sigma Tau Theta presi-

dent, Kristin Stephenson, said, "We, as communication students, always need to make time to network. It is very important that we learn from the ones who are paving the way."

"I believe any time an established individual takes time out of their busy schedule to help black students or people in general for that matter get a foot in the door is awesome. I really get upset when I see individuals succeed in life and don't help other people get to where they are or at least point them in the right direction. This conference was the most beneficial thing I have attended since I have been here at PVAMU, aside from the Inauguration Party and The Women's History Tea Party," said graduating senior Nicole Morris.

After an hour lunch break, the conference continued with one-on-one sessions, to allow students to have a more personal conversation and network with the panel.

"I feel that it is great that we have events like this because it's important for students to have the opportunity to network with others in the job field that we are interested in," said junior communications major Courtney Sanders.

Chris Brown, a senior communications major, said, "I think it is important that we have things like the media conference because as African-American students we need the guidance and support from others like us who have already established themselves in our field."

Stephenson said, "The conference was beneficial to me because I got a chance to find out how to pursue my career in mass media and it gave me hope seeing young African-Americans making it in the field I dream to be in. This conference definitely has not reached its limit, even though I think it was a great event we could always do better by adding Oprah."

Sigmas teach students to organize at seminar

By Lionel Mosby Jr.
Sports Editor

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. presented "How to Plan and Organize" Monday in the new electrical engineering building and invited a small but eager crowd.

Darian Cornelius, Phi Beta Sigma's director of education, introduced keynote speaker Cecil Shy Jr.

Shy is a mechanical engineering major who used many of his experiences and some tips to explain to the audience how everyone could organize their life.

"We all have goals and aspirations, but we don't take the time to actually plan and set bridges to reach them," said Shy. "Planning is simple, necessary, and very effective. I just want to be an asset to help people see what it is worth."

Shy pulled some information from a book called 'Guaranteed 4.0 Plan' by Donno O. Johnson that he said helped him tremendously in planning and organizing.

He stressed the separation between short term (1-2 day) and long term goals; as well as setting priorities that help you move on toward accomplishing those goals that seem out of reach.

"I loved it," said freshman communication major Joshua Jones, "It was definitely helpful, because it's a life tool that everyone should have."

Shy also spoke briefly about the awful reality that non-planning could cause for someone to stray from their path of reaching very attainable goals.

"Sometimes things won't always happen the way you plan them to, but having a plan will help you balance out those slips off of your course," said Shy.

Many audience members found this information helpful and believed it would be a big help to the new freshman students.

Shy plans to present more tips on effective planning to freshmen in the future.

Greek life seminar touches on past and present

By Nastashia Matlock
Panther Intern

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. hosted a seminar titled Greek Life: "How it was then...and how it is now..." on April 7 at 7 p.m. in conjunction with their Phi Nu Pi week 2009.

"The idea for this seminar came about after constantly hearing my older Kappa brothers talk about how things used to be back in the day, and how they are now in reference to the Greek life," Wayne Wilson Jr., president for the Zeta Beta chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. said.

The event was held in a discussion format including panelist Kappa Alpha Psi member David Anderson, Omega Psi Phi member Dr. Kelvin Kirby, Alpha Phi Alpha member Taugamba Khadi, Phi Beta Sigma member Charles Crockett, and Alpha Kappa Alpha member Dr. Sammie Robinson.

Wilson asked the panel several questions discussing the panelist opinions of the difference between black Greek life organizations' mind-sets, purposes, and procedures back in the day when the panelists crossed and the difference they view today.

The panel discussed their reasons for joining their organization which is not much different from today's youth joining organizations or having interest. Some joined for the hype of receiving benefits while others became interested after viewing so many leaders on

campus being involved in that certain organization.

"I joined for the girls because I saw that I was viewed as nothing without three letters and two colors after hearing comments from individuals at my girlfriend's sorority picnic," said Khadi.

Like most freshmen entering college Anderson confessed he knew nothing about the Greek Life when he came to college.

"I knew nothing about Greek when I came but I soon saw that Greeks were the movers and shakers around campus, and I saw they were leaders," Anderson said.

A lot of people feel individuals change once they become Greek by pushing friends aside or hanging with only other Greek letter individuals, so a discussion came about discussing the treatment of non-Greek friends and the relationships they had with them once they crossed.

"I didn't push my friends away," Crockett said. "You don't forget your friends when you become Greek because those are the ones who were there supporting you before you became Greek."

Because of so many incidents of hazing, society has put somewhat of a negative connotation on black Greek letter organizations.

"Black organizations weren't started as hazing organizations," Khadi said. "We lost pledging because of hazing. There's always one fool or monkey who always messes up the show, but the work of the organizations is bigger than hazing."

The older members stressed that lessons could be taught that support unity with time without the use of excessive violence.

PVAMU celebrates women's history

By Ebony Sowell
Panther Staff

Prairie View A&M University's Woman's Leadership Council hosted a range of events during the month of March in celebration of Women's History Month.

In 1987, women fought to have a month to celebrate their many achievements and were given March.

PVAMU joined the national celebration and hosted events such as movie viewings and discussions, art exhibits, book reviews, and a tea party.

Renee Williams, equal opportunity officer and committee member, said, "I was excited because after we pulled together our theme which was 'reigniting the spirit of sisterhood', just generating that excitement is helping us to accomplish the goal of our theme."

Each year Prairie View plans to attract more staff and students to the events of Women's History Month and Williams believes this year was a success.

"What we did differently this year is that we actually had a kick-off program to advertise the programs for the upcoming weeks, and I think that that really opened up the window for those who didn't know about the event to come out and be exposed to what we were planning throughout the month," said Williams.

No matter what the turn out was the overall objective of all the ladies who were involved was to bridge the gap between the stu-

dents.

"There are woman here on campus who actually care about the students' successes and the experiences that they go through their academic years here on the campus. We are available for them," said Williams.

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Impassioned testimony over voter ID

By Jay Root
Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas - Efforts to create new ID requirements for Texas voters sparked impassioned debate Monday in the Legislature, where Democrats and Republicans are squabbling over the proposals as the crucial 2010 elections approach.

Rep. Marc Veasey, D-Fort Worth, conjured up the civil rights struggles of the 1960s, saying the proposals for tighter ID measures are the modern equivalent of the Jim Crow laws that were used to suppress minority turnout for decades.

"This is a racial issue, make no mistake about it," said Veasey,

who is black. "Can you really sleep with yourself at night knowing that if this bill is passed, that most of the people that would be denied the right to vote are going to be black, brown and poor?"

Veasey made his comments during a public hearing on the proposal in the House Elections Committee. The panel is taking a crack at the legislation that passed on a strict party-line vote in the state Senate last month.

The bill would require Texas voters to present a photo ID or two non-photo ID alternatives, such as a marriage license and a utility bill, before being allowed to cast a regular ballot.

During the sometimes heated hearing, expected to last into the night, conservative experts said voter ID laws bolster the democratic process because citizens gain confidence that elections aren't rigged or

fraud-ridden.

"If people stop believing in the process, voter turnout goes down," said Republican Todd Rokita, the secretary of state of Indiana, which has a tough photo ID requirement for voters. "When voter turnout goes down, we lose the republic."

Republicans, who control both houses of the Legislature and all statewide elective offices, say the new ID rules are needed to protect against voter fraud. Democrats complain that the GOP wants to suppress Democratic turnout by erecting hurdles that disproportionately affect their base vote.

The Senate version of the bill would take effect ahead of the 2010 statewide and legislative elections, after which state lawmakers will redraw the boundaries for their own districts and those for Texas members of the U.S. Congress.

Texas priest dead; caretaker arrested

By Michelle Roberts
Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO - The caretaker of a Texas priest's home in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, was arrested in the 69-year-old's death after calling the priest's family and demanding payment for information on the whereabouts of his body, authorities said Monday.

The Rev. Jesse Euresti vanished a week ago after going to the Nuevo Laredo house he bought in September to do some repair work. A neighbor called police after finding blood in the garage and his bedroom, said Euresti's niece, Beatrice Rios. His mattress and an area rug were missing.

Euresti's body was found off a highway in Nuevo Laredo over

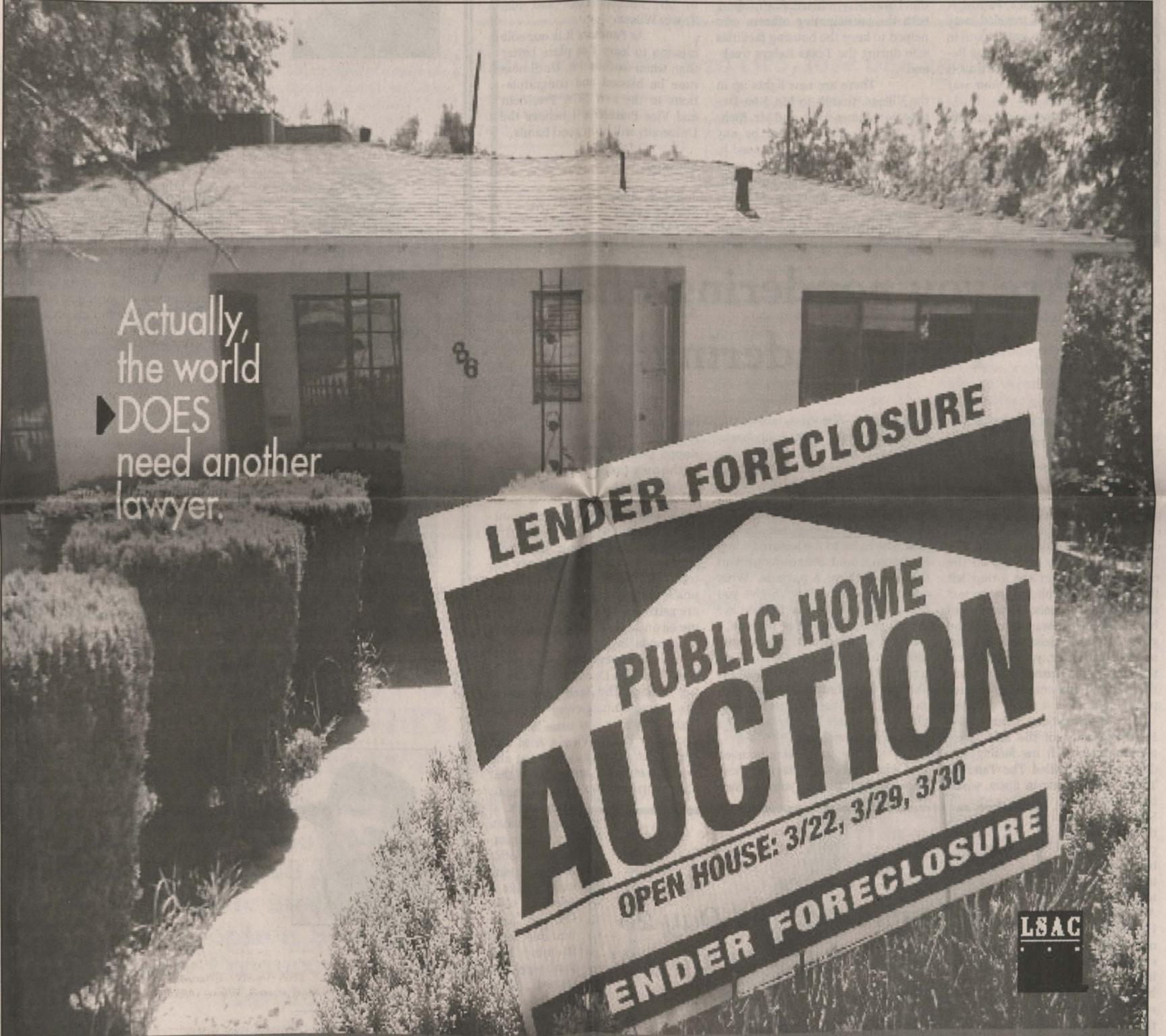
the weekend after Manuel Martin Torres allegedly called Euresti's family to demand 3,000 pesos, about \$220, for information on the whereabouts.

The family paid less than the demanded amount, said police Commander Guillermo Bermudez Davila, but Torres was arrested when he tried to collect the money at a bank in the southern state of Chiapas.

Family members confirmed the identity of the decomposed body.

"They did find my uncle's body," Rios said Monday. "My mom confirmed it."

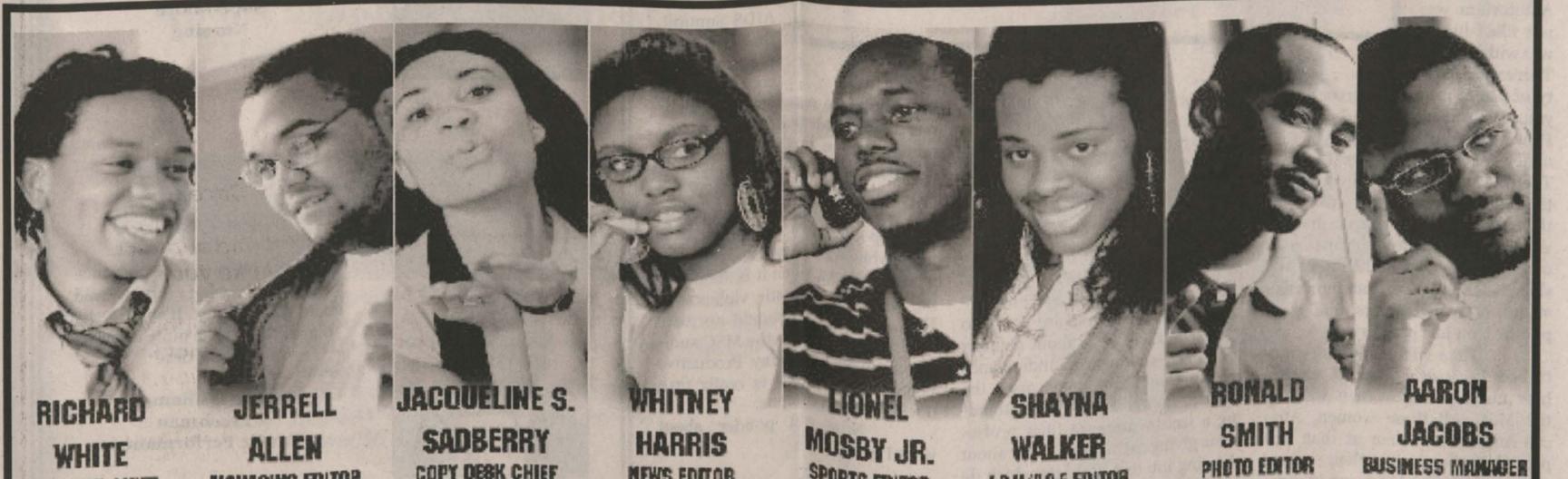
Christian Gonzalez, spokesman for the Diocese of Austin, said Euresti, the pastor of Cristo Rey Catholic Church in south Austin, had been making weekly trips to work on the house before his scheduled retirement in July. He planned to retire in Nuevo Laredo.



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SGA Speaks Out



Welcome back, Panthers. I know many of you traveled away to Austin, Texas, to participate in the festivities during the Texas Relays. It's my hope that your travels were safe as you made your way back to the "Hill."

Midterms are over and finals are upon us and so I strongly encourage each of you to make concerted efforts to finish the semester strong. And to those of you who are graduating this semester-congratulations! But you, too, must make sure you outrun

the sometimes overwhelming beast called "senior-itis."

On behalf of mayor Frank Jackson of Prairie View, Dr. George Wright, and the Prairie View community I would like to say 'thank you' to all who participated in the spring 2009 P. A. W clean-up. I would also like to thank Dr. Laurretta Byars and her staff for making sure the program was a success.

As we did last week I would like to address and recognize some of the accomplishments SGA has made on your behalf.

•Safety: I would like to say 'thank you' to Ron Dupree and the University Village Staff, along with the participating officers who helped to keep the housing facilities safe during the Texas Relays weekend.

There are new lights up in the Village, thanks to Mr. Ron Dupree, Mr. James Abbt, and Mr. Richard Norton. Should there be any more areas on campus that need to be addressed, please forward your complaint to Mr. Michael Love - Director Of Complaints for SGA via Facebook.

•Complaints: It has been brought

to my attention that students are pulling fire alarms as pranks in various locations on campus and as SGA President I assure you that all students caught/convicted will be reprimanded to the fullest extent, seeing that this act is clearly against the student conduct code-pg. 12 "false reporting."

Lastly, many students have been having problems with gaining entrance to the different housing gates and it has been explained to me that you should go to student services in the MSC 1st floor (where you get your I.D.) to have your card activated. Thanks to Mr. Michael Love and Ms. Tressy Wilson.

As Panthers it is our sole mission to leave this place better than when we found it. Until next time be blessed and congratulations to the new SGA President and Vice President. I believe the University will be in good hands.

Sincerely,

Johnnie L. Jones, III
SGA President
PVAMU 2009

Are you pondering what I am pondering?

Long lines, screaming, excitement, cameras, and the MSC twice as busy as it has ever been, all occurred last Tuesday when the R&B group Day 26 came to Prairie View A & M University. Between my cell phone, Facebook, and my e-mail, I received probably over 20 different kinds of notifications Day 26 would soon be arriving on the campus. Then after the group left the school, I saw photos, more text messages and Facebook statuses of how 'GRAND' it was to meet and greet Day 26. I mean with it being so close to Easter, you would have thought Jesus Himself came back, the way the students were in such pandemonium.

The next day, I viewed The Panther photos of the MSC auditorium, which left me feeling very disturbed. I recalled The Talented Tenth HBCU Tour in 2007, which brought Tavis Smiley, an author, journalist, political commentator, and talk show host to Prairie View A&M University. He gave not only one of the greatest lectures I have ever heard, but also had discussions with the student body on how to become leaders in our community and within our careers. However, I can tell you now the MSC Auditorium was not filled like it was with Day 26.

There were plenty of places in the front row where you could walk right in and sit down. How many front seats could you find at the Meet and Greet of Day 26? The message Tavis Smiley left with the students who came will better them for life. What message did Day 26 bring that will be with you to pass on to your children in the future? To skip class so that you can bum rush stages, be teenyboppers, and get a photo? I am just pondering.

Then I felt even more disturbed because I noticed exactly how many young women were in the MSC. All these women, African-American women at that, appeared to be losing their minds while crooning over a group of men. Where were all the young women when Sister Souljah came to MSC

Auditorium? She was answering questions left and right. Souljah was teaching us not "to be academically advanced and culturally retarded." A lesson some should have heard the way they carried themselves over Day 26. Sister Souljah left not only the young women, but also the men who came to the lecture feeling empowered and acknowledgement that we all have a purpose. What empowerment did Day 26 give you that you are still feeling to this day? Well if you are saying to yourself, I was not enrolled at the university during this time, then OK, you get a pass. However, did you attend the Tea Party and Hatitude Extravaganza just a few weeks ago in recognition of Women's History Month? I am still just pondering.

If you are telling yourself that you came on out to all of these events, what I want you to think

ing, Spring Fest, extra credits, free food, AKA seminars, Delta week, Kappa seminars, Sigma week, etc. be the only time you show some interest in what is occurring at your university? Really? There is nothing wrong with going to an organization's seminar because they too offer great life lessons, but make sure you are taking what they are teaching from it. Why go to the Alpha's leadership seminar if all you are getting from it is "This will help me be an Alpha." I mean I am truly just pondering.

Do not get me wrong. My issue is not with Day 26. I love watching "Making The Band," and seeing the drama unfold every Thursday night. However, my issue lies with my fellow Prairie View A & M students. Put as much excitement and joy into seminars and activities that are occurring here on our campus every week. It is great when the organizations can offer us something exciting like a celebrity visit. Go and have fun. Just keep in mind how you were so amped about Day 26 when there are other visits of scholars. Moreover, it does not have to be someone coming to the school. You can always attend a HIV/AIDS Summit, the SGA's open meeting about concerns on campus or an organization's seminar about student life. There is so much wisdom in the lectures and seminars. Prairie View has given us so much to help us once we leave the university. So take pride in going, jump up and down, building excitement while waiting two hours before a lecture starts, when it is about being a leader, domestic violence or HIV awareness. It should not take a celebrity coming to the MSC auditorium to see how many 'Productive People' Prairie View is really producing here on campus.

Now you ponder about what I just said.

-Anita S. Mixon

What message did Day 26 bring that will be with you to pass on to your children to the future?

about is the number of people you notified about the lecture or seminar, so they too can learn something to benefit them. I mean you Twitter your friends about how great it is going to be to see Willy, Mike, and let us not forget Webbie. Tell them about how joyous it is going to be to go and get free testing on campus to make sure you are not HIV positive. Then if you are going to these seminars it is about actually focusing, listening and understanding what should be taken from the lecture. I am sick of people attending a lecture because their professor is giving extra credit. How about showing interest in things which do not involve some type of incentive, party, kick back, or 'I have to attend so I can get in.' Should Homecom-

PURPLE & GOLD POLL

By Ronald Smith
Photo Editor

What did you think about Spring Fest? What would you have changed?



"Most of the events were cool, it was free so it gave everyone something to do. I would do more interactive events that bring the whole student body together."

Andrea Gillespie
Junior
Architecture
& Construction Science



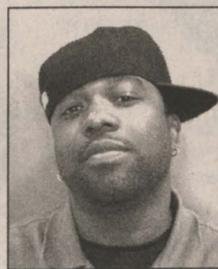
"It was all right, I wish they would've had more events. I would've put the carnival on Wednesday instead of Friday, it was too close to the Texas Relays."

Adrien Canida
Senior
Accounting



"It was fun, the hypnosis was pretty cool. It should've been during Texas Relays weekend, more people would've been there."

Jalcia Price
Freshman
Marketing &
Management Information
Systems



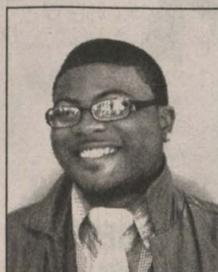
"It was pretty cool, I would've changed the week it was on. It should've been promoted better."

Bryant Davis
Senior
Construction Science



"I enjoyed it, it was different from the past. I would've moved it to a different weekend other than the Relays."

Amy Jones
Sophomore
Nursing



"It was a pretty good experience compared to what everyone said about it in the past. It could've had bigger events like more concerts and parties."

Joe Williams
Freshman
Music Performance

Strokes ahead of the competition

Prairie View golfers place first in Valley Invitational

By Lionel Mosby Jr.
Sports Editor

The Prairie View A&M men's and women's golf teams persevered through the cold weather Monday and Tuesday, April 6-7, to bring home third and first place, respectively, in the Mississippi Valley River Invitational.

Aziza Glass led the women's team throughout the tournament, finishing the two-day event with a seven-stroke win over teammate Peni Sanjoto. Glass shot an 82 on the first day and an 84 on the second day, but her number one finish came with tremendous pressure.

"It was a scramble the whole time for me," said Glass, "The weather was definitely a problem. I think it was a high of 54 and 60 degrees on both days plus there was a 24-miles per hour wind blowing in too. On some swings, I couldn't swing correctly." Even though the wind and cold gave Glass trouble, she kept pushing through the first 18 holes and ended day one with a six-stroke lead on her way to the victory.

"I believe we're ready as a team to really compete for the SWAC title in both men's and women's golf this year," said Glass. The women's team is definitely poised to take home a SWAC title in golf as they blew past the competition with excellent performances over the two days of play. Not only did Sanjoto help with the Lady Panther rout of three other competing schools (MVSU, Southern, Alcorn State), but Danetta Dunn also placed fourth individual to boost the team's score. Add in Darvel McKinney and Terrie Mitchell's show and their rounds

catapulted the Lady Panthers to an overwhelmingly high victory in the team competition with the second place team losing by 20-plus strokes. The Lady Panthers weren't excited about the cold weather, but they used the conditions to their advantage during the tournament.

In the men's action, Jeremy Williams was the star Panther who battled the cold and windy weather conditions at the Invitational to finish first overall. "This was the first time I held the lead (3-strokes) going into the second day," said Williams, "I felt pretty nervous and bogeyed the first hole on the second day, but then I eagled the second which settled me down." And after Williams settled back into playing his game, he secured the win with a score of 69.

Donald Cook, Brady Faggard, Heath Kinder, and Damian Greer all contributed to the men's third place finish as they played some good rounds of golf themselves. Greer shot an amazing 100 to help boost the team's confidence while Cook dropped in a score of 94 on the first day and 80 on the second. "Cook played really well," said Coach Alvin Blake, "He and Greer showed some poise during the tournament."

"We have been struggling," said Williams, "The guys came together today and had some good rounds. This is definitely one of our better tournaments and I think we are getting prepared for SWAC." The SWAC tournament will be held April 19-22, in Alexandria, La., and both teams will be practicing to be at their best for the exciting competition. "With a little more practice over the next two to three weeks, I think we will be in a position to be a contender for the SWAC crown," said Glass.

Baseball team has tough week against Baylor, Southern

By Dontae McCrary
Panther Staff

The Prairie View A&M University Baseball team traveled to Waco to play against number thirteen ranked Baylor Bears. This would be a tough test for the Panthers but a good out-of-conference test against a good opponent. In the first inning the Panthers got runners into scoring position but couldn't produce any runs. In the bottom of the first inning the Panthers ran into Murphy's Law, where everything that could go wrong did. The Bears leadoff hitter hit a single to get one base. The next batter hit a two run homer. Panther's senior pitcher Terry Salter did get the third batter he faced to strike out but the Bears bats stayed hot. The Panthers got the Bears to two outs in the inning but an error by Salter let the inning continue and the Bears scored 11

runs off 9 hits, to put the Panthers in a large deficit they wouldn't recover from in a 14-1 loss.

On Saturday the Panthers had a double header against SWAC western division leader Southern, in Baton Rouge, La. The Panthers' offense started slow with a pop fly out to left field, a strike out, and a ground out in the top of the first inning. Panther's senior pitcher Brandon Kendrick walked the leadoff hitter. The Jags got three hits to produce three runs. The Panthers' offense responded in the second inning with a single from outfielder Myrio Richard. The Panthers senior infielder hit into a double play to end the inning. The Jags offense continued to get to the Panthers pitching adding 2 runs in the bottom of the second and 4 runs in the third innings. The Panthers scored four of their five runs in the final inning for a 12-5 defeat.

In the second game of the double header the Panthers bats were hot. After a scoreless first inning, the

Panthers started the second inning off with a double by senior outfielder/pitcher Kendricks. The scoring in the inning started with a sacrifice fly out by senior catcher George McDonald. The Panthers scored 4 runs off three hits and never looked back. Sophomore pitcher Mark Almaguer pitched seven innings giving up striking out 5 batters, giving up only one walk and one run. The Panthers returned the favor in game two winning in a final score of 12-1.

In the final game on Sunday, neither the Panthers' offense nor pitching performed like it did in game two. Panther pitchers junior Robert Ponce, sophomore Jonathan Arnic, and Salter gave up a combined 12 hits and 11 runs. The Panthers' bats were cold as well producing only one run in each the fifth and seventh innings before doubling that total with two in the ninth.

The Panthers' loss dropped them to 6-9 in conference play. The Panthers' next game will be against Arkansas-Pine Bluff on April 11.

Lady Panthers win two, lose one against Southern

By Delray Williams
Panther Staff

The Lady Panther softball team is starting to click as they move to stay afloat. This year hasn't produced much excitement for the team but as their season starts to dwindle down toward the SWAC tournament they will look to pick up the pace for a final run.

The team competed in three games on Friday, April 3, and Saturday, April 4, against the Southern University Jaguars in the William "Billy" J. Nicks Athletic Complex.

The Lady Panthers played hard and won the first game that was played Friday 6-0, and the second game played early Saturday 2-1. Unfortunately, the Lady Jaguars won the last game defeating the Lady Panthers by a score of 9-0.

In the first game, the Lady Panthers scored two runs on one hit in the first inning to take the lead. They also drove in one run on one hit in the second and one run on two hits in the fifth.

In the second game, the Lady Panthers scored one run on two hits in the first inning and one run on two hits in the second. Martinez and Gonzalez had a combined three strikeouts in those games. The

Lady Panthers are now ranked 4th in the western division and 9th overall.

"We had two great games. We just lost our intensity in the last game. We took a loss but they didn't beat us. Southern was in no way better than our team. We need to start strong and finish strong in the future," said Troyla Washington, freshman communications major.

Freshman nursing major, Keyna Mason who catches for the Lady Panthers said, "Our first two games were against Southern but we didn't capitalize on our runs. In our third game, we just lost momentum when we weren't getting the bats around to the right spots."

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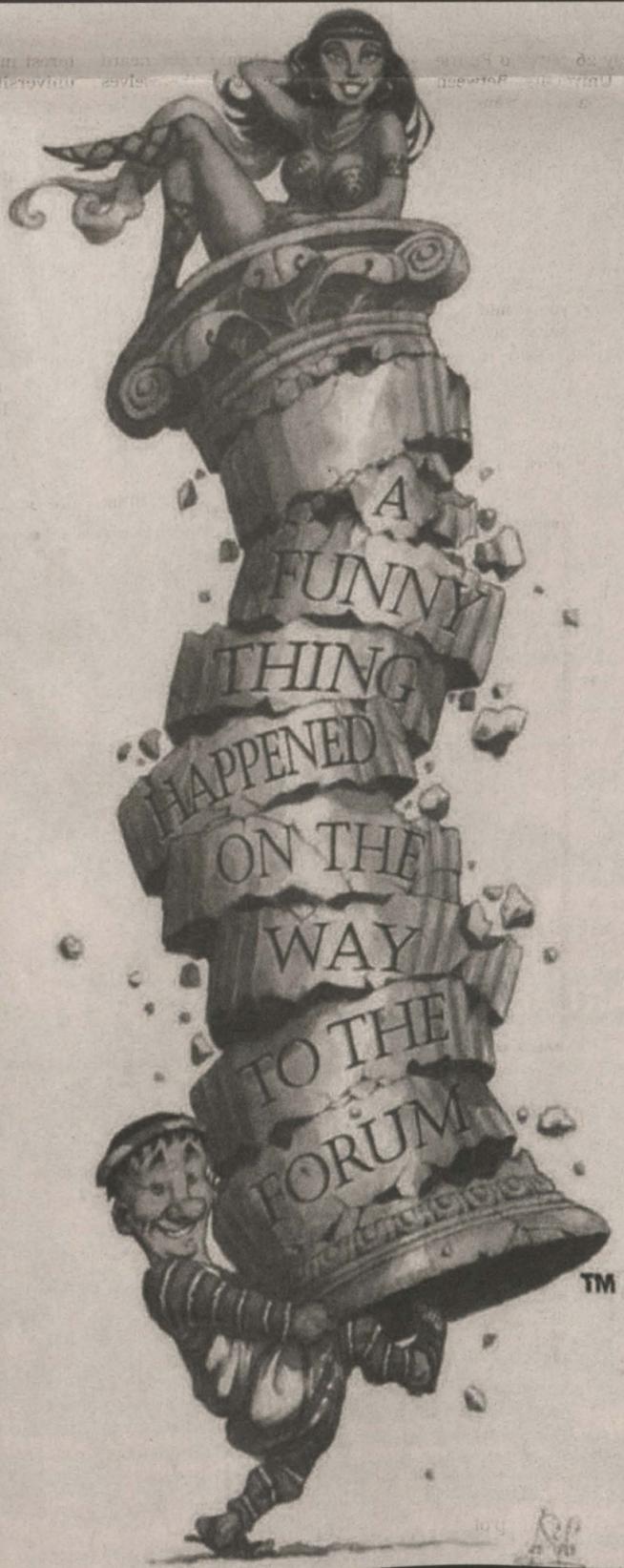
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Good Friday: more than just a holiday

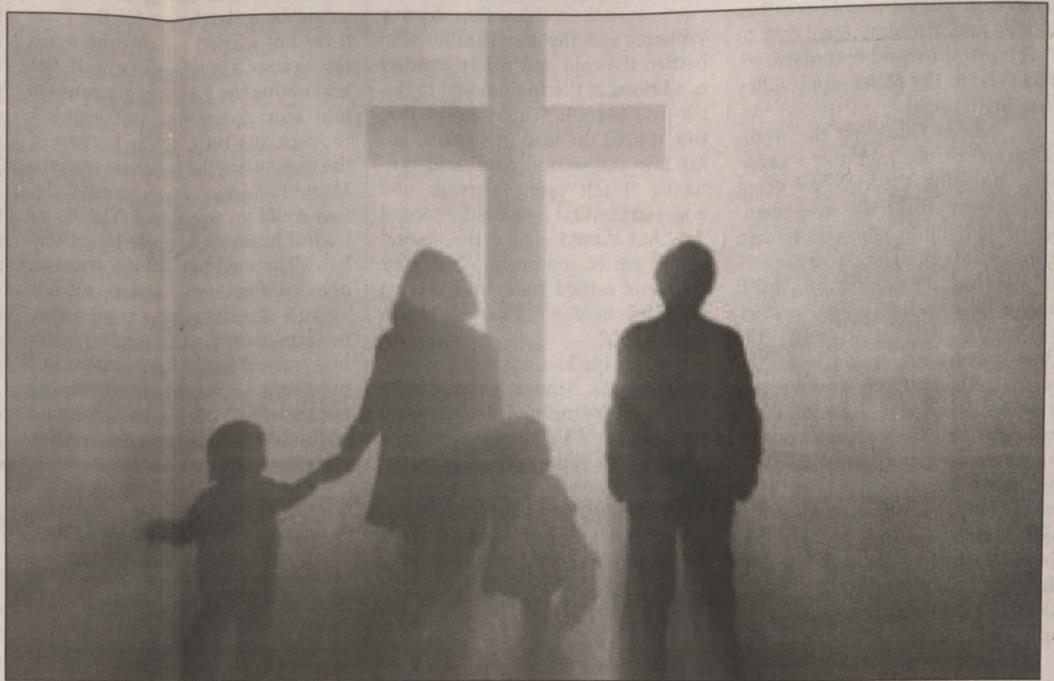
Have we passover'd for Easter?

By Aaron Jacobs
Business Manager

and resurrection of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, how have all the aforementioned things become incorporated into the mix. When did Easter become synonymous with the Easter bunny? The answer is from the beginning!

The name "Easter" has its roots in ancient polytheistic religions (paganism). On this, all scholars agree. This name is never used in the original scriptures, nor is it ever associated biblically with the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Venerable Bede, (672-735 CE.) a Christian scholar, first asserted in his book *De Ratione Temporum* that Easter was named after Eostre (a.k.a. Eastre). She was the Great Mother Goddess of the Saxon people in Northern Europe. Similarly, the "Teutonic dawn goddess of fertility [was] known variously as Ostare, Ostara, Ostern, Eostra, Eostre, Eostur...etc." Her name was derived from the ancient word for spring: "eastre."

Easter has never been Passover nor did it take over the place that God had set apart for Passover. According to Wikipedia, the first Christians, Jewish Christians and Gentile Christians, were certainly aware of the Hebrew calendar (Acts 2:1; 12:3; 20:6; 27:9; 1 Cor 16:8), but there is no direct evidence that they celebrated any specifically Christian annual festivals. All of the holy days that they celebrated were those, which the Hebrews had practiced since Moses. Unleavened bread is the week including Passover. Even according to the Bible the last sup-



Courtesy of Google

Easter quickly approaches! This is the time for a styling new suit and some sleek polished shoes, large bright flowered hats, brand-new dresses which reflect every color of the rainbow and cute high heels. This is the time where the church is going to finally be packed from pew to pew with everyone on time for the first time all year just to get a good seat. The pastor can't help but be happy to finally preach to a packed crowd of people but he dare not talk too long and again scare off the people he only sees four times a year, crosses his fingers. Everyone is ready to see the little children recite something their parents have made them repeat everyday for a whole month or more, to watch the almost infinite poems, skits, and choir specials. Chicken after church, Easter egg hunts, and the time has finally come to go to church to feel good on the inside somehow after being absent all year. Christians gather together for all these things but why? Are these things pleasing God or us?

As well prepare to celebrate the greatest possible holiday for Christianity, Easter; I believe it is important to examine how we observe the day. The question that I seek to answer is what is the real origin of Easter and why if it is supposed to deal with the death, burial

per was Passover.

Passover was set apart by God as the time which he would overlook sins to save his people as he did in Egypt.

But like all things over time the original intention and aim of Passover was lost just like many different things surrounding what Jesus was and is today. So believers today have to ask themselves what do they wish to believe. I know that I cannot convince anyone of any-

thing but facts are facts. Let your conviction be sure because God is looking at your heart and you will stand before him and he'll ask you why did you celebrate another god's day and not his which he said would be kept by his people forever.

I say that Christians worldwide should consider the truth of history and the apparent truth of the Bible and back away from celebrating Easter as it has

been commercially sold to people and the name itself which stems from a pagan god. Why not call the day Passover? It is the holy day which Moses, all of Israel, Jesus, the apostles, and the early church celebrated and by choosing to simply change the name of the celebration and removing all the Easter eggs, bunnies, and self glorifying practices, we have nothing to lose. And if we can change the name then we can also change the practices of the day to those of Jesus and Moses.

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Weirdos dance their way to Spring Bling

By Nastashia Matlock and
Shayna Walker
Panther Staff

The Weirdos, a dance crew, from Prairie View A&M University won this year's B.E.T. Spring Bling Revamped Saturday, March 28th in West Palm Beach, Fla.

The crew consists of Andre Lewis, senior business management major, Joseph Huntsberry, junior psychology major, Victor Williams, sophomore nursing major, and Darryl Mayes, not an attendee of Prairie View.

The crew has been dancing together for two years with Lewis and Huntsberry dancing together since they came to Prairie View in the fall of 2005. They are well known around campus and have done several showcases for a multitude of events. This great opportunity to shine was not planned by the group.

In fact it was a friend who saw the group's potential, "Our home girl Courtney signed us up without telling us by sending in a video of us dancing at last year's Omega's Next Top Model," said Huntsberry.

"Two weeks after the video was sent we received a phone call notifying us that we had made it to the auditions but that was no guarantee of a win," Lewis said. "They told us 10-15 dance teams would be competing for two spots."

The teams were supposed to consist of eight members but The Weirdos communicated effectively to let the producers know their group consisted of only four members, allowing them to continue on their claim to fame.

"We were a little skepti-



Courtesy of Courtney Jamison

We're weird but we're here: The Weirdos pose with Keri Hilson.

cal about going because we didn't want to get way out there and then they pull some kind of stunt saying we didn't have enough members," Lewis said.

The crew put their skepticism aside and agreed to take a shot at it. Although the team had performed at a massive number of school events over the years for free, they sadly could not find a sponsor.

"We didn't have support from the school," Huntsberry said. "We had to hustle up money on our own after the fact that we did free

shows for different events and organizations just to show love."

The crew came out of pocket and received money from family and friends raising roughly \$1000 to pay for outfits, a rental car, gas, a room, and food. They prepared themselves for a long 20-hour drive and long weekend in West Palm Beach, Fla.

The Amount Boyz, who won Spring Bling in 2003 were the judges for the auditions and said "The Weirdos were the best dance crew they had seen thus far at the

audition," early that Friday morning.

When the crew found out they were one of the two groups selected, they had 24 hours to prepare a dance for the challenge which was to revamp Usher's "Yeah" video. They stayed up until 5:30 a.m. and had to be at Singer Island at 8 a.m. for the taping of the show.

"The show was basically live; if we messed up there was no chance to go back," said Lewis. "It was either get it done right or go home knowing we did it wrong."

They had a 1:30 second to perform their original dance which they performed to a customized beat created by DSF. They had 1:15 seconds to perform the Usher's Revamp challenge.

The crew's late night practicing making do with the little space provided and hard work paid off with the success of being titled with a unanimous vote, B.E.T.'s Spring Bling Revamped 2009 champions.

"We came out with confidence because we knew we were the only crew with our style incorporating our individual moves while looking united as one," Williams said. "We had so many people rooting for us to win, it was a great feeling."

The judges whom consisted of singer Keri Hilson, rapper Young LA, and The Amount Boyz gave the crew several compliments over the other crew.

"They said we were the best seen, clean creative group that danced in unison and from the heart," Huntsberry said.

The Weirdos received a B.E.T. gift bag, great contacts from networking, offers and discussions of performances with the producer of B.E.T.'s 106th and Park, promoters, and The Amount Boyz (professional choreographers in California). Next year they will be attending an all expense paid trip to open up for B.E.T.'s Spring Bling.

"My group won because we all had different styles, but we come together and correlate as one," Huntsberry said.

Watch out for this crew on B.E.T. April 9th 7:30-8 P.M. Re-runs will air if missed.

"Check us out," Williams said. "We hope to reach out and inspire people to extend their mind outside the box because we only have one life to live, so if you want something go put your name on it."

Models bring the mayhem for Stomp The Runway

By Shuntia Wheeler
Panther Staff

On Thursday, April 2, Campus Activities Board presented Model Mayhem: Stomp The Runway inside the MSC Auditorium at 7 p.m. Aspiring designers and models were featured for the fashion show as part of the Spring Fest activities during the week of March 29-April 4. The show was hosted by Danita Collins and Warren Thornton. Fashion designs from the lines of Spank Me, RBTS, and Ro-Collections were the center of attention for this event. Designers presented business, casual, summer, formal, sporty, and swimwear for the evening. The auditorium was filled with students eager to find out what's hot and what's not.

Erin Arnold, a junior marketing major, and Brit'ny Stinson, a sophomore business management major are sister-duos making their second appearance in a fashion show held at P.V. The two young ladies originated their line for Spank Me clothing in Austin, Texas. Their designs were first introduced to the student body in December 2008. Spank Me, as said by Arnold, is, "what feels like you and we are proud to be a part of the show."

Summer Shepherd, founder of Ro-Collections was established on Oct 31, 2005 in Dallas, Texas by Rolland Truit. She is an entrepreneur with an online store ecollections.com, as well as a store and restaurant in Lancaster. She felt it was imperative that she displayed her fashion trends to the student body

because "PV is a fashion school and a business school." She began presenting her line in the fashion shows held on campus in 2006 and since then she has seen a boost in sales. She received an invitation to a business event at Texas Southern University on April 8, 2009.

Joseph Cuillier, a junior business major, is the founder of RBTS street wear influence apparel with message clothing made for the conscious individual. It was established in 2008 on campus. "I felt the need to open my own clothing boutique not just for fashion, but for creating a brand for everything I do in the future." Cuillier is using the opportunities at PV to expand his brand and is focused on creating an outlook for anything he feels he may want to pursue in life.

Spring Fest brings comedic relief

By Ryan Rudd
Panther Staff

On Saturday, April 4, the 2009 Spring Fest at PVAMU was capped off by a very relaxing and intriguing comedy show held at the William J. Nicks Baby Dome. Students from all over the campus came together, to have their need for laughter fulfilled.

The event began with one of the funniest female comedians in the Houston area, Keisha Hunt. Hunt's radical, down-to-earth performance had students in complete amusement. When asked how she felt about coming out and performing among the students of PVAMU Hunt explained, "It was really great. Each and every time I perform, I really try to reach out and inspire my audience. If that means using cer-

tain words, or talking about certain topics, so be it." Updates and information about Hunt and her shows can be found on her MySpace page at, www.myspace.com/keshiahunt.

The next performance took the audience by complete surprise, as Tom Delluca, a hypnotist from Orlando, Fla., tested the audience's mind and several figments of their imaginations. Prior to his performance, Delluca said, "I'm very excited; I've never been to Prairie View before." Delluca began his performance by selecting random audience members to participate in his "world of illusions." According to Delluca, "I try really hard to make the audience believers. I like to let people see how creative and interesting others' imagination can become." Based on the reaction he got from the audience, Delluca certainly accomplished his goal.



The Answers

Weekly Update for Freshmen

How were your midterm grades?
Now is the time to study, study, study!

You must have had a grade of 'C' (OR 'S') or better in your developmental class (es) at mid-terms to be able to pre-register for summer or fall 2009.

When is the next Quick THEA? Call 936-261-3610 for the testing schedule.



Here's the Scoop: On March 25, Building 40 residents enjoyed a scoop of ice cream and info on "How to Scoop Up Scholarships" from Faculty Fellow Judy Perkins and Scholarship Manager Sharon Thibodeaux.



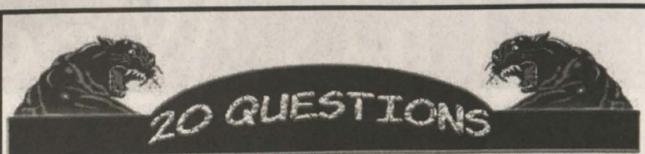
A SHOUT-OUT!! To the Res life staff of Building 48: Ms Gill, Ms Blount, Ms Savoy, Ms Watts, Mr Riley, Mr Franklin, and Mr Sampson! From PA, Ms Johnson a big THANK YOU for your help with the program last week!



Building 44's PA, Ms Gooden salutes LCC, Tiffany Hogg and Faculty Fellow, Dr Ronald Briggs. Congrats to all in Building 44 who made a 2.5 and above for midterms. Keep up the good work.

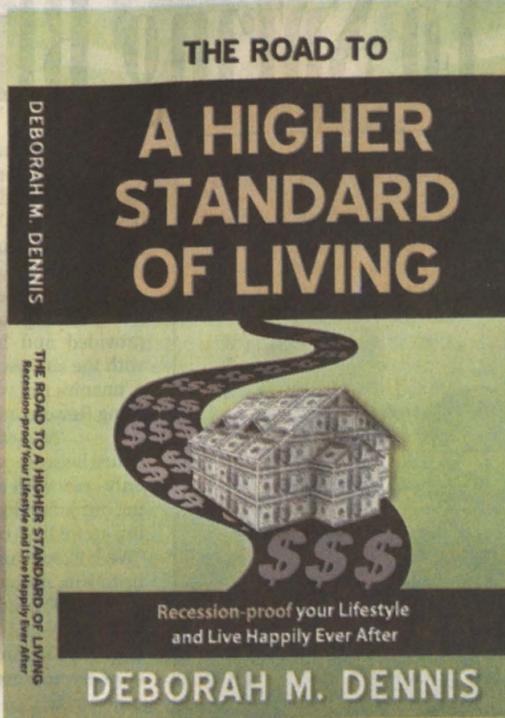


Here's the Pitch! Building 37 PA, Ms Whiting and LCC, Ms Semien applaud our top athletes: Jasmine Casnel, Jasmine Winn and Mercedes Livings on the Track team and Lakevia Wallac on the Softball team. YEAH!



1. How many people know they have 4.95 on their ID card for dry cleaning?
2. Why wasn't anyone at the comedy show and who believed the people were really hypnotized?
3. Who were the girls who followed Webbie to his hotel room?
4. Was the cold reign just really a cold front and which ice cube melted because he lost?
5. Whose boyfriend has a boyfriend?
6. Who is the Q-Dog who always has to be swiped in and seen in the MSC?
7. Since they "WEE-OOP," is a Gamma Sig an unwanted stepchild of an AKA and Delta?
8. Since the AKAs and Deltas didn't have a line, will the WEE and OOP be the closest they get to the organization they really wanted to pledge?
9. Why are the people who attend Gamma Sig's events the members and prospects?
10. Who was the Panther Doll and two freshmen who were stealing milk out the MSC?
11. Who all really voted for "Collateral Damage" for senior of the year and does anyone believe that he will graduate?
12. Who campaigns and camps out at the polls for PV Choice and still loses?
13. Was it necessary for the Ques to have a chapter meeting in the MSC Monday or are they striving for that much attention since no one on the yard notices them?
14. Who thought they were at a Delta convention after going to the PV Choice Award mixer or were there prospects on the planning committee?
15. What's the point of a PV Choice Award Nominee Mixer when you have already voted?
16. Who was the bad built girl at the mixer who determined who was important enough to eat the cold chicken?
17. Is PV Choice Awards so serious that you need more money out of the SGA budget just for decorations?
18. Are the chicken wings really that good if two disgruntled old ladies jumped a student in the line at lunch?
19. What sorority had their chapter meeting, came in the mixer and ate all of the food?
20. What do you think?

This is for entertainment only. The questions submitted are not the views of The Panther. Want to tell us what you think? Please bring your comments and questions to Rm. 219 MSC or e-mail us at panther@pvamu.edu. Questions are printed at the discretion of The Panther.



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This Week On The Hill

Thursday, April 9

FOCCS
Bible Study
Student Lounge Rm. 218

Waller County Tax Office
Voter Registration
Training
Memorial Student Center
Lounge Rm. 218

Recruitment
Kids2College Day
Student Center
Auditorium Rm. 111

FOCCS
Prayer Outreach
Student Center Outside

RBTs x Bass
I Love Art...
John B. Coleman Library
Rm. 108

Friday, April 10

Good Friday/Easter
(Student Holiday)

Waller County Tax Office
Voter Registration
Training
Memorial Student Center
Lounge Rm. 218

Sigma Tau Theta
Film Festival
Student Center Ballroom
Rm. 204 Sections A&B

Saturday, April 11

Gamma Phi Delta
So So D.E.F. Christian
Talent Showcase
Student Center Ballroom
Rm. 204

Waller County Tax Office
Voter Registration
Training
Memorial Student Center
Lounge Rm. 218

PV Football
Football Coaches Clinic
Senate Chambers

Sunday, April 12

All-Faiths Chapel
Worship Experience
10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Waller County Tax Office
Voter Registration
Training
Memorial Student Center
Lounge Rm. 218

Monday, April 13

Waller County Tax Office
Voter Registration
Training
Memorial Student Center
Lounge Rm. 218

Young Leaders for Christ
Bible Study
W.R. Banks Rm. 205

Health Physical Education/
Recreation/Dance
2009 Change: Let's Start
with a Healthier You
New Science Rm. A103

SGA
Student Awards Program
Student Center Auditorium
Rm. 111

Tuesday, April 14

Waller County Tax Office
Voter Registration
Training
Memorial Student Center
Lounge Rm. 218

Priority Registration
Begins for Summer/Fall

SGA
Elections
Student Center Foyer

University College
UC Relays
Track Field

Gamma Phi Delta
Apologetics 101 Bible
Study
Student Center Lounge
Rm. 218

Wednesday, April 15

Waller County Tax Office
Voter Registration
Training
Memorial Student Center
Lounge Rm. 218

FOCCS
Prayer Circle
Water Fountain

The Light
Empowerment Hour
Student Lounge

National Society of
Collegiate Scholars
Business Lecture
New Science Rm. 101

Epsilon Gamma Iota
Engineering Gala
Student Center Ballroom

Weather



Clouds breaking for some sun
High: 81 °F
Low: 63 °F



Times of clouds and sun
High: 79 °F
Low: 60 °F



Clouds and sun
High: 77 °F
Low: 62 °F



Strong a.m. t-storms possible
High: 76 °F
Low: 55 °F



Mostly sunny and beautiful
High: 78 °F
Low: 57 °F



Clouds and sunshine
High: 82 °F
Low: 63 °F



Very warm with some sun
High: 89 °F
Low: 64 °F